



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/660,931	09/13/2000	ATTAULLAH SHEIKH	36J.P248	7452

5514 7590 02/22/2005

FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO  
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA  
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER

DUONG, THOMAS

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2145

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/660,931

Applicant(s)

SHEIKH, ATTAULLAH

Examiner

Thomas Duong

Art Unit

2145

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 December 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 19-25 and 29-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 19-25 and 29-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Amendment*

1. This office action is in response to the applicants Amendment filed on December 22, 2004. Applicant amended *claims 1, 9, 12, 19, 29, 32 and 34*. *Claims 1-12, 19-25 and 29-35* are presented for further consideration and examination.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. *Claims 1, 9, 12, 19, 29, 32 and 34* are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Crawley et al. (US006321270B1).
4. With regard to *claims 1, 9, 12, 19, 29, 32 and 34*, Crawley reference discloses,
  - *establishing plural multicast groups, each multicast group corresponding to a respective change category for a type of change made to the directory in the directory server; and* (Crawley, col.2, lines 46-49; col.4, line 63 – col.5, line 3; col.5, lines 18-35, lines 61-66; col.9, lines 29-33; modules 66-70, fig.3)

Crawley teaches of configuring multicast groups by adding, deleting or modifying network nodes as members that subscribes to receive changes or updates in the network topology. According to Crawley, *"some network nodes participating in a particular multicast session may be preconfigured by the network administrator"* (Crawley, col.4, lines 65-67) implying that the network administrator may preconfigure a multicast session for a set of network nodes or group that, in responding to *"various types of changes, including adding new multicast members, deleting existing multicast members"*, etc. (Crawley, col.5, lines 23-25), *"the multicast control information and network nodes participating in the multicast sessions are updated"* (Crawley, col.5, lines 27-29).

- *submitting change information for multicasting responsive to a change being made to the directory in the directory server, the change information being submitted to each member which belongs to a selected one of the plural multicast groups corresponding to the change category of the type of change made to the directory in the directory server.* (Crawley, col.2, lines 46-49; col.4, line 63 – col.5, line 3; col.5, lines 18-35, lines 61-66; col.9, lines 29-33; modules 66-70, fig.3)

Crawley teaches of configuring multicast groups by adding, deleting or modifying network nodes as members that subscribes to receive changes or updates in the network topology. Crawley teaches of transmitting the updates information, which reflects a change in network topology (i.e. node added, node deleted, etc.) via multicasting to relevant nodes that are members of particular multicast groups, which may subscribe to receive updates on added nodes, deleted nodes, etc. Furthermore, it is well known in the art to configure multicast groups

Art Unit: 2145

containing members that are interested in receiving certain updates or information in response to a network topology change such as updates on added nodes, deleted nodes, etc.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2-8, 10-11, 20-25, 30-31, 33 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crawley (US006321270B1) and further in view of Fitler (US006366913B1).

7. With regard to claims 2-6, 10-11, 20-23, 30-31, 33 and 35, Crawley discloses,

See *claims 1, 9, 19, 29, 32 and 34* rejection as detailed above.

However, Crawley reference does not teach,

- *wherein the change information is submitted to the multicast groups utilizing a connectionless protocol.*
- *wherein each of the plurality of change categories correspond to an add, delete, modify or search changes.*
- *wherein changes made in the directory server are performed utilizing a Lightweight Directory Server Protocol.*

Art Unit: 2145

- *wherein change information is submitted for multicast by a plug-in that extends capabilities of the directory server.*

Fitler teaches,

- *wherein the change information is submitted to the multicast groups utilizing a connectionless protocol* (Fitler, col.4, lines 16-18; col.5, lines 11-13, lines 31-36; col.6, lines 8-15)

Fitler teaches of configuring dynamic groups using tree structured directory service implemented in connectionless protocols such as LDAP and X.500.

- *wherein changes made: in the directory server are performed utilizing a Lightweight Directory Server Protocol* (Fitler, col.4, lines 16-18; col.5, lines 11-13, lines 31-36; col.6, lines 8-15)

Fitler teaches of configuring dynamic groups using tree structured directory service implemented in connectionless protocols such as LDAP and X.500.

- *wherein change information is submitted for multicast by a plug-in that extends capabilities of the directory server* (Fitler, col.1, lines 23-63, lines 65-67; col.3, lines 34-35; col.4, lines 16-18; col.5, lines 11-13, lines 31-36; col.6, lines 8-15; col.7, lines 9-12)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine Fitler reference with Crawley reference to provide a technique for defining groups of users who access network services, or are provided network services, in such a way as to determine membership only when the service is requested or about to be provided, and to determine this membership based on a flexible specification of user or object attributes.

Art Unit: 2145

8. With regard to claims 7-8 and 24-25, Crawley discloses,

- *wherein a client registers with at least one of the plural multicast groups in order to obtain the change information corresponding to each multicast group for which the client has registered (Crawley, col.2, lines 46-49; col.4, line 63 – col.5, line 3; col.5, lines 18-35, lines 61-66; col.9, lines 29-33; modules 66-70, fig.3)*

Crawley teaches of configuring multicast groups by adding, deleting or modifying network nodes as members that subscribes to receive changes or updates in the network topology. It is well known in the art of multicasting that the client must register or subscribe to a group in order to receive update or information regarding the group.

#### **Response to Arguments**

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to *claims 1, 9, 12, 19, 29, 32 and 34* have been considered but they are not persuasive.

10. With regard to claims 1, 9, 12, 19, 29, 32 and 34, the Applicants point out that:

- *The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the present invention. More particularly, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of submitting change information to each member which belongs to a selected one of plural groups/multicast groups, where each group/multicast group corresponds to a respective change category of a type of change made to a directory in a directory server. Along the same lines, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest receiving a multicast transmission from the directory server, the multicast*

*transmission containing change information submitted to each member which belongs to the multicast group corresponding to the change category of the type of change made to the directory in the directory server.*

However, the Examiner finds that the Applicants' arguments are not persuasive and maintains that Crawley does disclose,

- *establishing plural multicast groups, each multicast group corresponding to a respective change category for a type of change made to the directory in the directory server; and* (Crawley, col.2, lines 46-49; col.4, line 63 – col.5, line 3; col.5, lines 18-35, lines 61-66; col.9, lines 29-33; modules 66-70, fig.3)

Crawley teaches of configuring multicast groups by adding, deleting or modifying network nodes as members that subscribes to receive changes or updates in the network topology. According to Crawley, *"some network nodes participating in a particular multicast session may be preconfigured by the network administrator"* (Crawley, col.4, lines 65-67) implying that the network administrator may preconfigure a multicast session for a set of network nodes or group that, in responding to *"various types of changes, including adding new multicast members, deleting existing multicast members"*, etc. (Crawley, col.5, lines 23-25), *"the multicast control information and network nodes participating in the multicast sessions are updated"* (Crawley, col.5, lines 27-29).

- *submitting change information for multicasting responsive to a change being made to the directory in the directory server, the change information being submitted to each member which belongs to a selected one of the plural multicast groups corresponding to the change category of the type of change made to the directory in the directory server.* (Crawley, col.2, lines 46-49; col.4,



Art Unit: 2145

line 63 – col.5, line 3; col.5, lines 18-35, lines 61-66; col.9, lines 29-33; modules 66-70, fig.3)

Crawley teaches of configuring multicast groups by adding, deleting or modifying network nodes as members that subscribes to receive changes or updates in the network topology. Crawley teaches of transmitting the updates information, which reflects a change in network topology (i.e. node added, node deleted, etc.) via multicasting to relevant nodes that are members of particular multicast groups, which may subscribe to receive updates on added nodes, deleted nodes, etc. Furthermore, it is well known in the art to configure multicast groups containing members that are interested in receiving certain updates or information in response to a network topology change such as updates on added nodes, deleted nodes, etc. Therefore, the Applicants still failed to clearly disclose the novelty of the invention and identify specific limitation, which would define patentable distinction over prior art.

### ***Conclusion***

11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a). A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any


Art Unit: 2145

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas Duong whose telephone number is 571/272-3911. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30AM - 4:00PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Valencia Martin-Wallace can be reached on 571/272-6159. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703/872-9306 for regular communications and 703/872-9306 for After Final communications.

*Thomas Duong (AU2145)*

*February 16, 2005*

  
JASON CARBONE  
PRIMARY EX  
AU: 2145